

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 are amended. The Abstract is amended to enclose numerals in parentheses. The Brief Description of the Drawings is amended to conform the description of figures 8A and 8B to the detailed description of the figures at page 9 of the application. The amendments are supported by the application as originally filed and no new matter is added.

The labels for Figures 8 A and 8B are objected to as being inconsistent with the description of the drawings at page 3 of the application. However, it is the description at page 3 that is inconsistent with the labeling of the figures. The application provides a detailed description of Figures 8A and 8B beginning at page 9 line 10 that is consistent with the labeling of the figures as presented. The **Brief Description of the Drawings** is amended at page 3 to correct the insistency. Applicant requests that the objection be withdrawn.

The Abstract is objected to for numerals that are not enclosed by parentheses. The Abstract is amended accordingly. Applicant requests that the objection be withdrawn.

Objections are made to spelling or grammar errors in claims 2-4. The claims are amended to correct the errors. Applicant requests that the objections be withdrawn.

Claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith (US 4,093,043) in view of Karasudani (US 4,161,239). Applicant traverses the rejection to the extent that it can be maintained.

The invention of claim 1 provides a disk brake unit of compact size relative to prior art devices without sacrificing strength or braking force. In particular, the structure of claim 1 includes a part of a piston projecting beyond an outer peripheral edge of the brake disk, outer and inner pads that do not extend beyond the outer peripheral edge of the brake disk, and a bridge section connecting inner and outer sections of a caliper body that projects further inward than a outer peripheral edge of the piston and the projecting part of the bridge section extends from an inner section to an outer section of the caliper body.

Smith discloses a carrier for brake pads that provides for a sliding movement of the carrier from thermal expansion resulting from heat generated by braking. Figures 2 and 3 of Smith show a conventional caliper housing including a bridge section between an outboard side 25 and an inboard side 24. Neither figure shows a projection part of the bridge section further inwards than an outer peripheral edge of the piston.

The Office Action states that Smith discloses part of the bridge section projecting further inwards than an outer peripheral edge of the piston referring to fig. 1 dotted lines passing through below screws 37. Applicant respectfully submits that the dotted lines refer to hidden features of the Smith device other than the bridge section or projecting parts of the bridge section. The bridge section 54 of the invention corresponds to the outer body piece 26 of Smith. Figure 1, as understood by the Applicant, indicates that it is impossible for a projection part of the bridge, i.e. outer body piece 26 of Smith, to extend below screws 37 and from the inner section to the outer section of the caliper body. Also, none of figures 1-3 show a projection part of the outer housing, i.e. bridge section, that would otherwise suggest Applicant's claimed invention.

Karasudani, like Smith, does not disclose a projecting part of a bridge section. The combination of Smith and Karasudani fails teach or suggest all of the elements of claims 1 and 3.

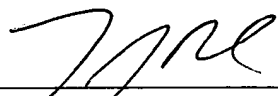
Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 3 are not obvious over Smith in view of Karasudani and request that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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